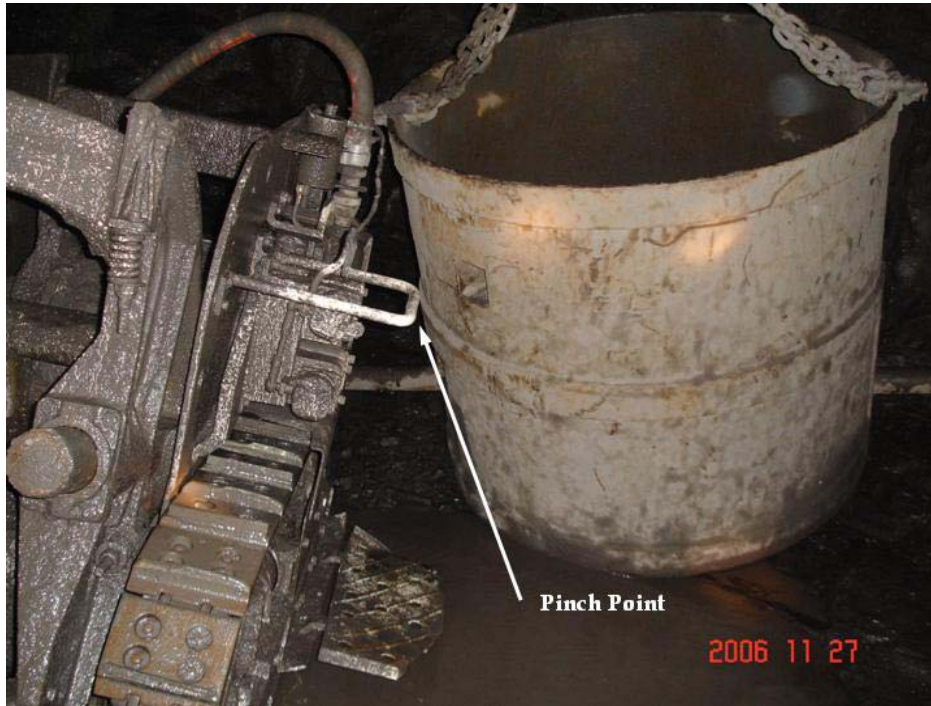




CLOSE CALL SHAFT SINKING ACCIDENT



On November 27, 2006, during shaft sinking operations, the operator of the Eimco track mounted mucking machine was cleaning loose material at the 297-ft level of the shaft. While loading the material, he inadvertently placed himself in a pinch point, between the mucking machine and the shaft bucket. He suffered injuries to his lower extremities, and was held for observation at a local hospital for two days, and then released.

Best Practices:

1. Maintain adequate clearance between equipment, both stationary and mobile, and work from the safest location possible.
2. Always look in the direction of movement and exercise caution in close work areas.
3. Operate equipment so that control is maintained.
4. Develop processes, involving all miners, designed to proactively identify and eliminate hazards and unacceptable risks.

